

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. By this amendment, claim 2 is canceled and claims 1, 3-5, 7-11 and 14 are amended.

Examiner Chen is thanked for his courtesy extended to Applicant's representative during the April 18, 2006 interview. During the interview, it was pointed out why claim 1 and its dependent claims are not anticipated by O'Brien, as detailed below.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 USC 102 over O'Brien (USP 5,247,638). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

O'Brien does not disclose at least one first processor for controlling transfer to and from the cache unit of data which is transferred from said upper-level system and received at and transferred from said channel unit; and at least one second processor for controlling said cache unit to transfer data to said disk device, as recited in claim 1. The first and second processors allow asynchronous transfer of data between the upper-level system, the channel unit, the cache unit and the control units.

Instead, in O'Brien, processor 204-0 controls flow of data to and from cache memory 113 (see col. 9, lines 17-22) and processor 204-0 performs management and scheduling of the optical fiber backend channels 104 (see col. 9, lines 63-65). As may be seen with reference to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 of O'Brien, the optical fiber backend channels are the channels over which data is transferred from cache 113 to disk drive manager 102-1, and this transfer is under control of processor 204-0, the same processor.

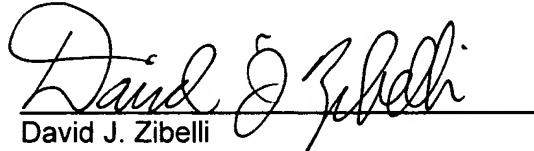
Because these features are missing from O'Brien, O'Brien does not anticipate claim 1 or any claim dependent therefrom.

For the above reasons, it is submitted that none of the pending claims are anticipated by or obvious over the applied references. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

The Office is authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit of any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,


David J. Zibelli
Registration No. 36,394

Date: April 19, 2006

KENYON & KENYON
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: (202) 429-1776
Fax: (202) 429-0796
605877



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